Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for driving a separating element that can be moved linearly and/or on curves and that, if required, can be rotated and parked, ~~and that is attached to~~ the apparatus comprising:

at least ~~two~~ first and second drive ~~assemblies, which comprise~~ assemblies attached to the separating element, the first and second drive assemblies including supporting ~~rollers and which are guided in~~ rollers, the first drive assembly including a drive shaft that is aligned at right angles to a running direction of the first drive assembly, an electric motor coupled thereon, and a drive wheel rotated by the motor; and

a guide rail on which the supporting rollers are guided, the guide rail comprising a center piece and two side pieces, ~~on which~~ running surfaces ~~are~~ provided on the side pieces for the supporting rollers, and a toothed element attached to and arranged along an inner wall of the guide rail, wherein the drive wheel is rotated and engages in the toothed element, ~~the first drive assembly is provided with a drive shaft that is aligned at right angles to its running direction and that is coupled to an electric motor, and by means of which a drive wheel can be rotated, which engages in a toothed element that is arranged along an inner wall of the guide rail, characterized in that~~

wherein the electric motor is mounted on the first drive assembly in such a ~~way,~~way that ~~it~~ the first drive assembly is guided above the running surfaces in an accordingly dimensioned space within the guide rail with the axis of the motor shaft being aligned between the supporting rollers at right angles to ~~the~~ a plane that is defined by the running ~~surfaces and~~surfaces,

the motor shaft ~~being~~ is firmly coupled via a transmission to the drive shaft that is aligned in parallel to the axis of the motor shaft, ~~and that~~

the separating element is connected to the driving apparatus by means of an attachment element, that is held by ~~the~~ a body of the first drive assembly and in parallel to the separating element, and

a busbar extending in the longitudinal direction of the guide rail is arranged within the guide rail and is tapped by current collectors that are arranged on the firs drive assembly.

18. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the electric motor is arranged in a motor housing in which the transmission is also integrated.

19. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the shaft of the transmission and the drive shaft are integrally connected to one another.

20. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the attachment element is rotatably connected to the body of the first drive assembly.

21. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the motor shaft ~~or the shaft of the~~ is mounted by means of the body of the first drive assembly at one end or at both ends of the electric ~~motor, and is thus held aligned vertically.~~ motor.

22. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the body of the first drive assembly has two parts which surround the electric motor, or ~~in that~~ the first drive assembly has an integral body which is suitable for accommodating and for holding the electric motor.

23. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that the first drive assembly is provided with running rollers and/or guide rollers at one end or at both ends.~~ wherein at least one of said running rollers and guide rollers are mounted one end or at both ends of the first drive assembly.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in ~~claim 24,~~claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the busbar is arranged at the top on the center piece of the guide rail, and is tapped by the current collectors which are arranged on the upper face of the first or second drive assembly.

26. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein a control unit which is connected to the current collectors and to the electric motor is arranged on the first or second drive assembly.

27. (Currently Amended) The drive apparatus as claimed in claim 26, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the control unit, which is preferably in the form of a flexible circuit, is inserted within the single-shell or multiple-shell housing of the electric motor, of the drive assembly or in an extension of the body or of the housing of the drive assembly, which extension does not impede parked drive assemblies being moved with respect to one another.

28-29. (Canceled)